(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या हैं ?

नागरिक पूर्ति और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद) : (क) जी, हां

(ख) और (ग) सरकार ने 147.78 अमरीकी डालर प्रति मीटरी टन (जहाज तक निष्प्रभार) के औसत मूल्य पर 10.05 लाख मीटरी टन गेहूं का आयात करने के लिए कनाडियन व्हीट बोर्ड के साथ एक ठेके पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं अनुमान है कि आयातित गेहूं की उतरान लागत 5260.00 रु. प्रति मीटरी टन बैठेगी।

Import of Rice

1676. SHRI MOHINDER. SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import rice from Thailand and Vietnam to meet public demand in lieu of export to Basmati Rice; and ,

(b) if so, the quality and quantity of rice to be imported and the foreign exchange to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) There is no proposal to import rice from Thailand and Vietnam in lieu of export of Basmati Rice.

(b) Does not arise.

Stock of foodgrants of P.D.S.

1677. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of sharp fall in procurement of foodgrains this year the stocks of foodgrains for the public distribution system (PDS!) have depleted putting public distribution system under strain;

(b) if so, what is the net effect or less procurement of foodgrains on the public distribution system;

(c) whether Government are aware that the strain on Public Distribution system is likely to push upward the open market prices of foodgrains; and

(d) if so, what remedial action Government propose to take to contain price of essential commodities?

THE MINISTER. OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) On account of lower procurement of both rice and wheat during 199(1-92 foodgrains stocks in the Central Pool have come down compared to the position obtaining a year earlier. However, there has been no adverse effect on the public distribution system, releases for which are being made on the normal pattern.

(c) and (d) Open market prices of foodgrains are dependent on the relative position of overall supply and demand of foodgrains in the market. On account of lower procurement this year of wheat and rice, the holding of these foodgrains in the open market is comparatively larger, which should have ft sobering effect on the open market prices.

Import of Wheat

1678, SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to import one million tonne of wheat from Canada;

(b) if so, the reasons and justifica tion thereof;

(c) the quantum of wheat exported to other countries during the last six monthis; and

(d) the reasons for importing the wheat when Government are exporting it on the other hand?